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PRESS RELEASE

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THE SF PLAYHOUSE ANNOUNCES TENTH ANNIVERSARY SEASON

May 2012 — San Francisco Playhouse is proud to announce selections for our **Tenth Anniversary** Season. Founded in 2003 by Bill English and Susi Damilano and boasting 1600 subscribers, two stages, education and commissions programs. San Francisco Playhouse has quickly filled the need for a broad-based intimate, professional presenter of premieres and invigorated classics.

Our **2012-13 Season** will include **eight plays**: three Broadway hits, three re-discovered classics and two world premieres. The six play **Main-stage** season opens with rock musical, ***Bloody, Bloody Andrew Jackson***, an election time visit with our first “populist” President, a rock star of his time, who left an indelible imprint on our American character.

For the Holiday season, a seldom performed American comedy, ***Bell, Book and Candle*** by **John Van Druten** takes us to mid-century Manhattan, where a beautiful witch with a conscience struggles to wield her powers morally. Returning to **Stephen Adly Guirgis**, who more than any other playwright, has defined what San Francisco Playhouse has become, we bring you ***The Motherfucker with the Hat***, a hit Broadway comedy of 12-step programs, personal responsibility and haberdashery.

Reasons to be Pretty, another Broadway hit by **Neil LaBute**, follows the rocky path of a working class guy who casually remarks that his girl’s looks are “just OK.” Turning to the unique voice of Mike Leigh, we time-travel to suburbia 1978, and ***Abigail’s Party***, a riotous all-night drink-a-thon with a motley crew of social climbers. A revival of Arthur Miller’s seldom performed first play, ***The Man Who Had All the Luck*** closes out the main-stage season taking us to the depression years to visit a man with a lucky break who may be broken by his own luck.

This season, our **Sandbox series** of world premieres, will feature our own commissions. In the Fall, ***Bauer***, by **Lauren Gunderson**, will shed light on a gifted artist, a contemporary of Kandinski, who mysteriously stopped painting, just as he was becoming well-known. Rounding out our eight-show season, the second Sandbox show will be selected from our commissions currently in development by playwrights **Steve Yockey, Dan Hoyle, Bill, Bivins, and Aaron Loeb**

Featuring a rock musical, revivals from the 30s, 50s, and 70s, two plays by our most celebration contemporary playwrights and two world premieres by local writers, San Francisco Playhouse hopes to serve our community with our **most diverse and daring season to date**.

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Continued:

The SF Playhouse's Tenth Season: EIGHT SHOWS!

MAINSTAGE SEASON – 3 Broadway Hits and 3 Rediscovered Classics!

Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson

Written by **Alex Timbers**, Music and lyrics by **Michael Friedman**, Directed by **Jon Tracy**
October 9th to November 24th, opens October 13th

Andy's back and he's ready to ROCK! He may or may not have used his blazing Stratocaster to drive the Indians West or force the Spanish out of Florida - the history is unclear. But we know for sure that his controversial presidency doubled the size of this, our fair country, and set the stage for a fabulous Broadway Musical.

Bell, Book and Candle

By **John Van Druten**, Directed by **Bill English**
December 4 to January 19th, opens December 8th

Bewitched, bothered and bewildered. That's what happens when you fall in love with a witch. But is it worth it? Our good witch (well, fairly good) Gillian risks everything - if she falls for him she could lose her magical powers forever. A romantic, Christmas Eve comedy from the 50's.

The Motherfucker with the Hat

Written by **Stephen Adly Guirgis**, Directed by **Bill English**
January 29 to March 16th, opens February 2nd

Strap yourself in. This high-octane, verbal cage match about love, fidelity, and misplaced haberdashery comes straight from the playwright of *Jesus Hopped the 'A' Train*, *Den of Thieves*, and *Our Lady of 121st Street*. Jackie and Veronica have been in love since the eighth grade. Nothing can come between them. Except a hat.

Reasons to be Pretty

Written by **Neil LaBute**, Directed by **Susi Damilano**
March 26th to May 11th, opens March 30th

Obsessed. You. Me. America. This bristling comedy confronts our collective obsession with physical beauty. See what happens when Greg, a working-class guy in a long-term relationship, inadvertently remarks to a friend that, compared to a pretty coworker, his girlfriend is "regular."

Abigail's Party

By **Mike Leigh**, Directed by **Amy Glazer**
May 21st to July 6th, opens May 25th

Momma told me not to come. This biting, hilarious, disco infused satire of British suburbia in the 70's is a party only Mike Leigh could conceive. Stolen straight from real life, these friends test the strength of the ties that bind.

The Man Who Had All the Luck

By **Arthur Miller**
July 16 to September 14th, opens July 20th.

Madness and redemption... or not! What do you do when everything goes right for you, while those around you suffer? Maybe you deserve it. Or maybe you're just lucky, and it's only a matter of time

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Continued:

before your luck runs out. This little known Arthur Miller gem explores fate and freedom, and asks how much of our lives really belong to us.

SANDBOX Season – 2 SFPH Commission World Premieres!

BAUER

By **Lauren Gunderson**, Directed by Bill English
October 14th to November 10th, opens Nov 27

The true story of once-prominent non-objective artist Rudolf Bauer. This is a shocking and moving untold story of powerful art, powerful passion, and just as powerful downfall. In this case life really is art.

2ND PLAY CHOSEN FROM SF PLAYHOUSE COMMISSIONS 1) REMAKING PUSSYCAT
by William Bivins, **2) PLUTO** by Steve Yockey **3) ALCESTIS** by Aaron Loeb, or **4) SCRUBBED** by Dan Hoyle.